United States Embassy, Dhaka, Bangladesh Security Message for U.S. Citizens

Nationwide strike or hartal beginning Wednesday, Nov 16, 2015

(Nov 15, 2015)

The Jamaat-e-Islami, an Islamist political group, has called for a nationwide 24-hour hartal or strike beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, and continuing until 6:00 a.m. Thursday, June 18, to protest the death sentence upheld today by the Supreme Court against one of the group's leaders.

A hartal is a mass protest and recognized political method for articulating a political demand. As always, remain vigilant, avoid crowds and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

For further information:

- See the <u>State Department's travel website</u> for the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information.
- Enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (<u>STEP</u>) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the <u>U.S. Embassy in Dhaka</u>, Bangladesh, located at Madani Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh 1212, at (88) (02) 5566-2000, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Weekends and After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is (88) (02) 5566-2000 and press "0" and ask for the duty officer.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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